

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 18, 2023

News Release

VA Boston Healthcare System 1400 VFW Parkway West Roxbury, MA 02132 Contact: Kyle Toto

617-435-4372 kyle.toto@va.gov

VA Boston to Host Committee on Former Prisoners of War

BOSTON – VA Boston Healthcare System will host the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs' Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War, April 26 through 27, 2023.

"Former Prisoners of War are a group of extraordinary men and women who sacrificed their freedom to help preserve ours," said Vincent Ng, director of VA Boston HCS. "We're honored to host this committee charged with ensuring VA provides the health care, rehabilitation services and compensation these Veterans have earned."

The purpose of the committee is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of benefits for Veterans who are former prisoners of war, and to make recommendations on their needs.

The hybrid meeting – in-person and virtual – is open to the public, except during committee tours of VA facilities, which are closed to protect the privacy of Veteran patients. Wednesday, April 26, the committee will be in open session from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Lafayette City Center, 2 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, for discussion and briefings from Veterans Affairs Central Office, Veterans Benefits Administration and Veterans Health Administration officials. Thursday, April 27, the committee will be in open session from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at VA Boston's Jamaica Plain campus, 150 South Huntington Avenue, Boston. In-person participants may be asked to present identification in order to enter government facilities and must comply with any health and safety protocols.

Anyone can participate in the open sessions virtually through Microsoft TEAMS by computer or mobile app using this link: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-

join/19:meeting ZDVIMTYzMjItMDA0MS00ZjA1LThiM2YtNzNIYzkxMzczOGFi@thread.v2/0?context=%7B%22Tid%22:%2 2e95f1b23-abaf-45ee-821d-b7ab251ab3bf%22,%22Oid%22:%22b857b6c6-44d8-46b4-8041-6e7d50b9890a%22%7D

People can also join using Teems meeting ID 247 578 443 565 and passcode 7Fdafh, or by calling in to 872-701-0185 and using conference ID 616 157 593#.

More information can be found in the notice of meeting published on the Federal Register at https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2023-06079